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12 July 1955

Memorandum for the Record

- 1. The House Appropriations Committee today reported out H. R. 7278, making supplemental appropriations for Fiscal Year 1956. Chapter 3 authorizes \$3,000,000 to be derived from unobligated balances of appropriations made available to CIA for Fiscal Years 1953 and 1954 to remain available until expended, for the preparation of detail plans and specifications of a CIA headquarters installation. The Committee report stated that funds for construction were denied and stated further that, "It is felt that the inadequate planning with respect to both the site and the structure as evidenced in the hearings on this item gives the Committee no alternative but to defer action until a more firm program can be presented."
- 2. I discussed this matter immediately with Subcommittee Chairman Mahon, who asked Mr. Wigglesworth, the ranking Republican member, to be present. Mr. Mahon stated that he was "unalterably opposed" to the use of unobligated balances for an item as large as this construction. He stated that he realized that we had taken this approach in the thought that it might "sweeten up the members" in that new monies would not have to be appropriated. But, on the other hand, he felt that it was a mistake to indicate that GIA had so large an appropriation that this amount of unexpended balances was available. Mr. Wigglesworth concurred.
- 3. I pointed out to Mr. Mahon that our primary concern lay in the fact that no monies had been appropriated for the extension of the George Washington Parkway and that this was necessary if we were to utilize the Langley site. Mr. Mahon stated that we could take whatever approach we felt was necessary before the Senate Appropriations Committee in an attempt to increase the appropriation, and that such an attempt would not hurt us in any way in the eyes of the House Committee. On the other hand, he could not hind the House Committee to any agreement in advance to increase the appropriation until they had studied the Senate action. His whole approach in this matter was on a perfectly friendly basis.

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- 4. Col. White and I presented this information to the Director, and I made the following recommendations:
 - a. That a firm determination as to site be made prior to appearing before the Senate Appropriations Committee. This will go a long way toward meeting one of the objections of the House Appropriations Committee, namely, that we had not made a firm site selection;
 - b. That assuming this decision was in favor of Langley, we attempt to get \$4,000,000 which we had requested of the House Committee for the first year's work in connection with acquiring rights of way and extending the George Washington Memorial Parkway;
 - c. That we discuss with the Bureau of the Budget a revision of our appropriations language so as to ask for a direct appropriation of \$7,000,000 rather than the utilization of unexpended balances. It is felt that we should be guided by Mr. Mahon's feelings in this regard, and it would be more than likely that we could receive this amount by direct appropriation in view of his feeling on unexpended balances;
 - d. That we consider to what extent we should attempt to secure the full appropriation at this time. In my opinion it is unlikely that the Committee will authorize the full appropriation in view of its apparent desire to review architectural plans before appropriating the full amount for construction.
- 5. I will discuss with Mr. Perry of the Bureau of the Budget the steps to be taken in connection with the appropriation language.

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